



THE GREEDY MOTHER-IN-LAW

PANCHATANTRA TALES THAT COUNSEL AND CAUTION

Vol 583





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V.B. Halbe

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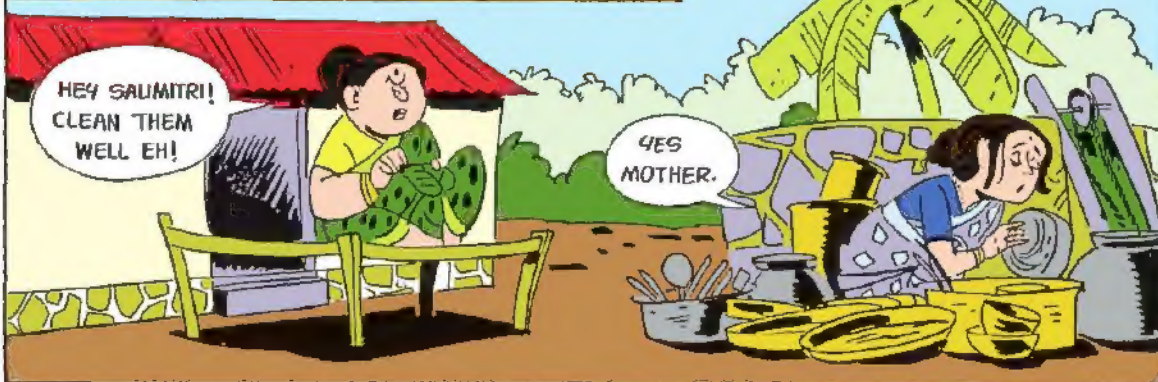
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THE GREEDY MOTHER-IN-LAW



HEY SAUMITRI!
CLEAN THEM
WELL EH!

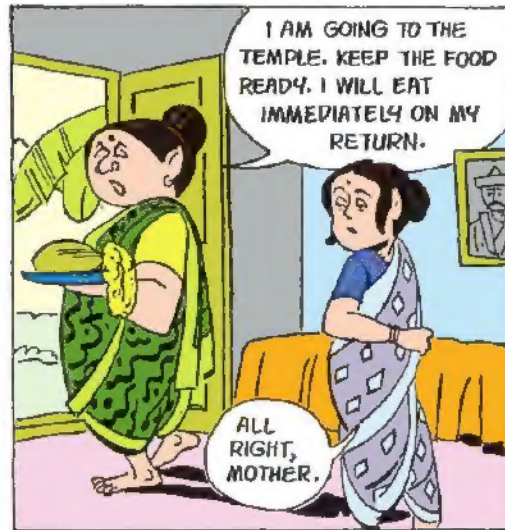
YES
MOTHER.

. KUMATI, THE WIFE OF THE HEAD-MAN OF SALAGRAM VILLAGE, WAS A TYRANT. SHE DERIVED SPECIAL PLEASURE IN TORMENTING HER SIMPLE DAUGHTER-IN-LAW SAUMITRI.

SAUMITRI SLOGGED FROM MORNING TILL NIGHT AND YET COULD NEVER PLEASE HER MOTHER-IN-LAW.

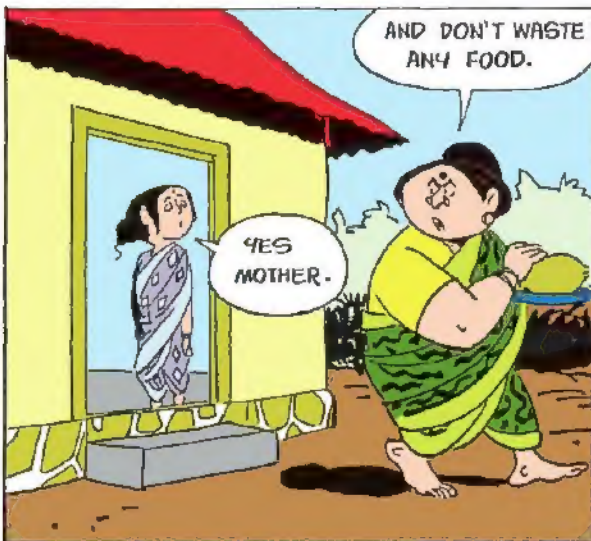


COME ON SLOW
POKE! WORK
FASTER...



I AM GOING TO THE
TEMPLE. KEEP THE FOOD
READY. I WILL EAT
IMMEDIATELY ON MY
RETURN.

ALL
RIGHT,
MOTHER.



AND DON'T WASTE
ANY FOOD.

YES
MOTHER.



SAUMITRI IMMEDIATELY BEGAN TO COOK.

I NEVER REMAIN
IDLE. STILL SHE
FINDS FAULT WITH
EVERYTHING I DO.





HAVING BEEN THROWN OUT, SAUMITRI HAD NO CHOICE.

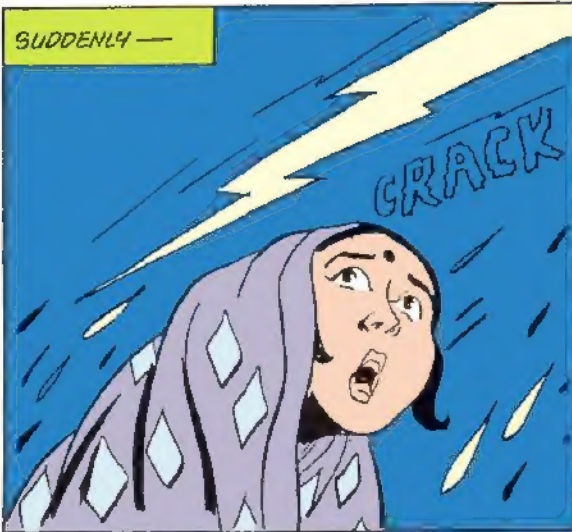
...I MUST GO TO MY FATHER.



THE PATH TO HER FATHER'S VILLAGE PASSED THROUGH A DENSE FOREST.



SUDDENLY —



THE RAIN WAS SO HEAVY THAT THE SHELTER PROVIDED BY THE TREE BECAME INEFFECTIVE.



I WILL TAKE SHELTER IN THAT HOLLOW.





THE TREE WAS THE HOME OF TWO RAKSHASIS*



THIS
BLASTED
RAIN!

I AM
SICK OF
GETTING
WET.



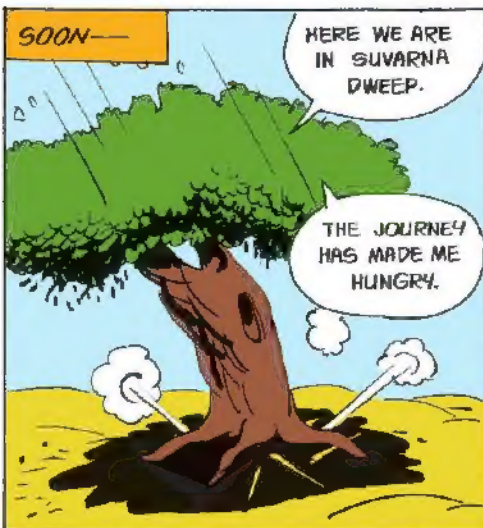
THIS RAIN IS
NOT GOING TO
STOP. LET US
GO TO SUVARNA
DWEER.

I AM
TOO TIRED
TO FLY.

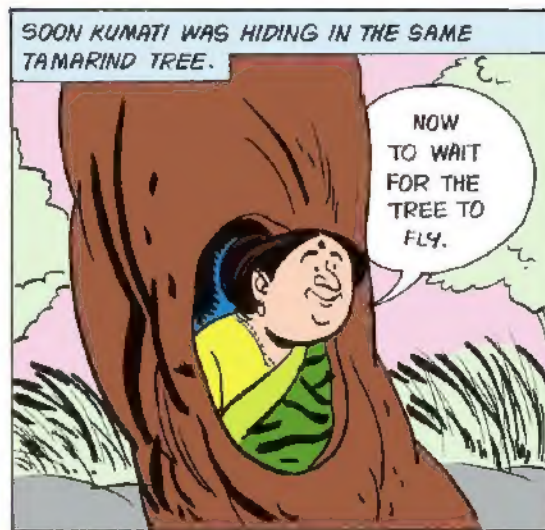
YOU JUST RELAX.
I WILL MAKE
THE TREE FLY US
THERE.

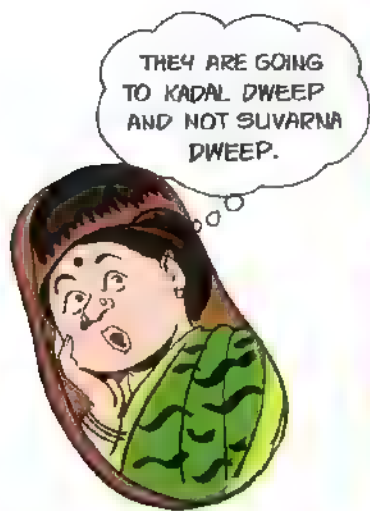


* DEMONESSES

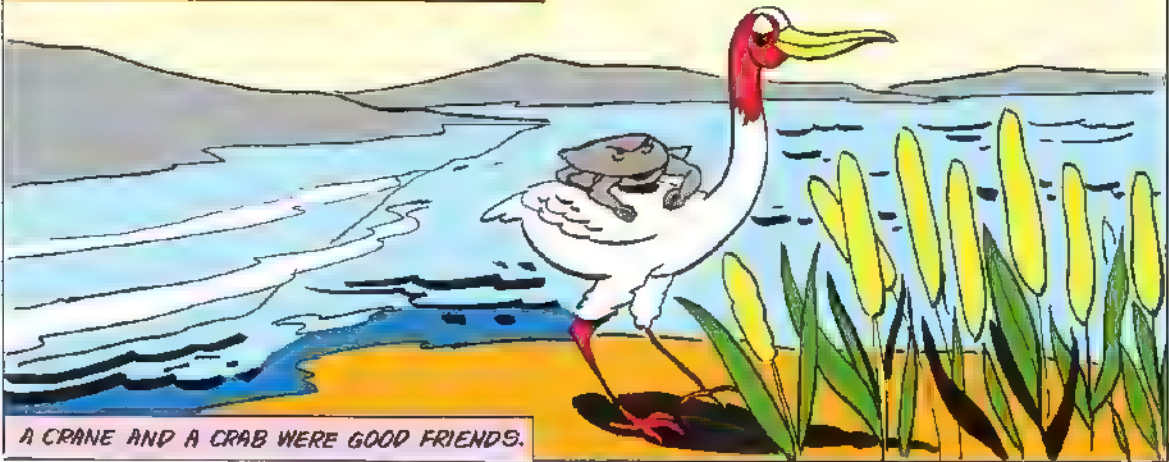




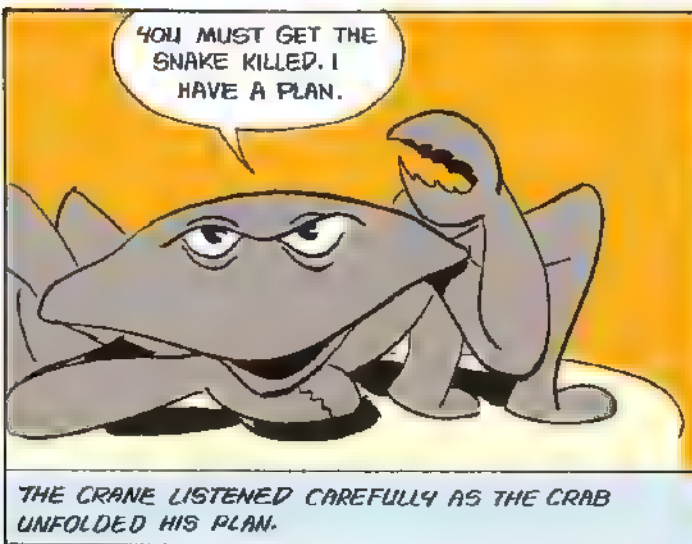
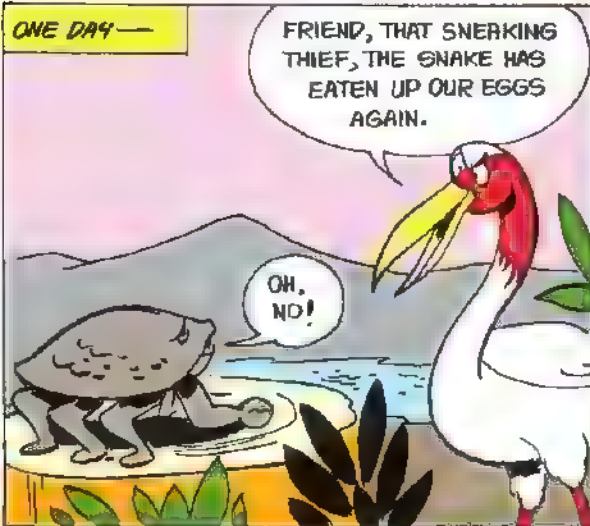




THINK BEFORE YOU ACT

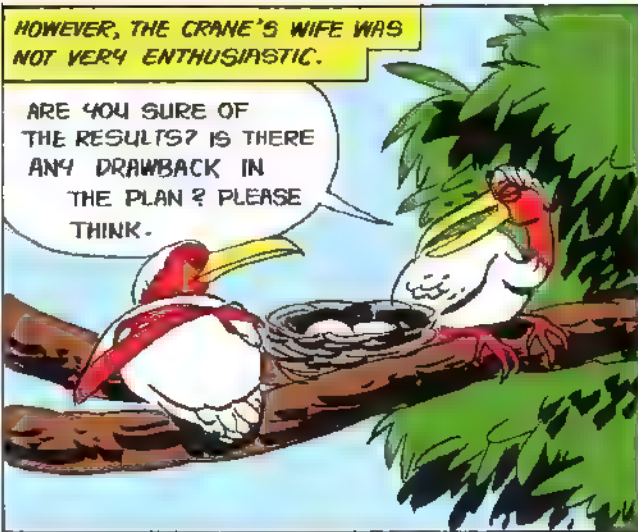


ONE DAY —

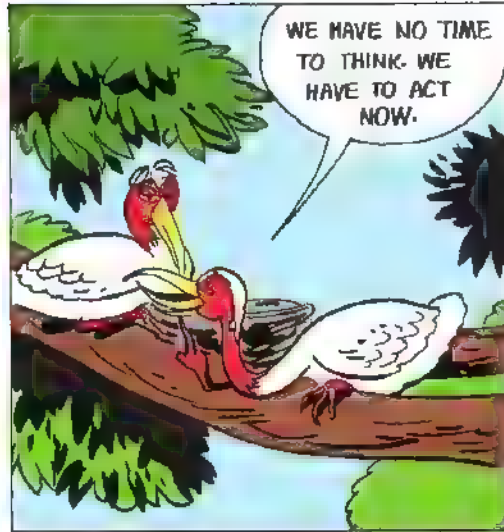


HOWEVER, THE CRANE'S WIFE WAS NOT VERY ENTHUSIASTIC.

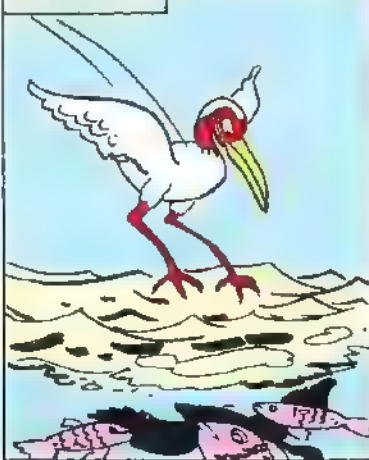
ARE YOU SURE OF THE RESULTS? IS THERE ANY DRAWBACK IN THE PLAN? PLEASE THINK.



WE HAVE NO TIME TO THINK. WE HAVE TO ACT NOW.



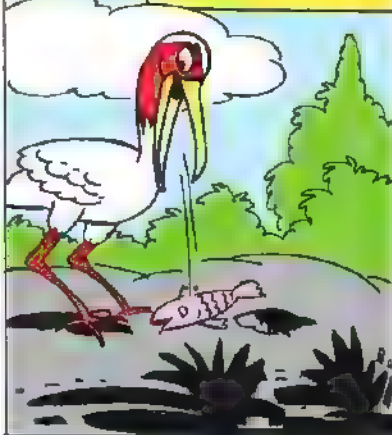
THE CRANE FLEW TO THE SEASHORE.



COLLECTED A DEAD FISH LEFT BEHIND BY THE FISHERMEN...

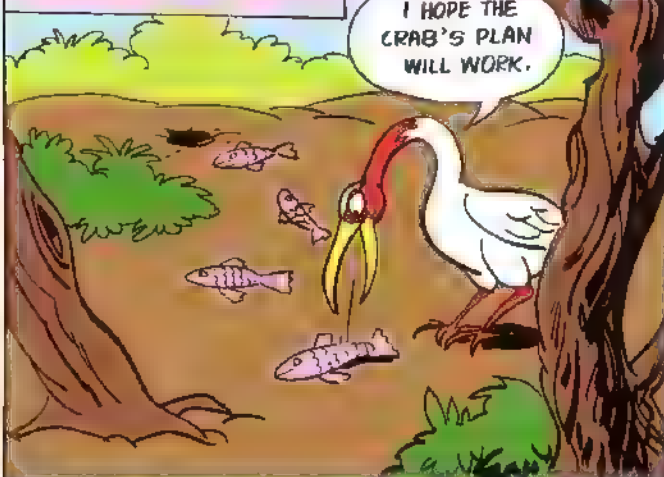


...AND DROPPED IT NEAR THE PLACE WHERE A MONGOOSE LIVED.



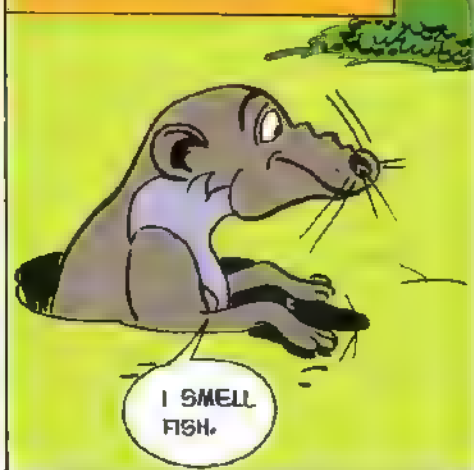
HE COLLECTED ANOTHER DEAD FISH AND DROPPED IT A LITTLE DISTANCE AWAY.

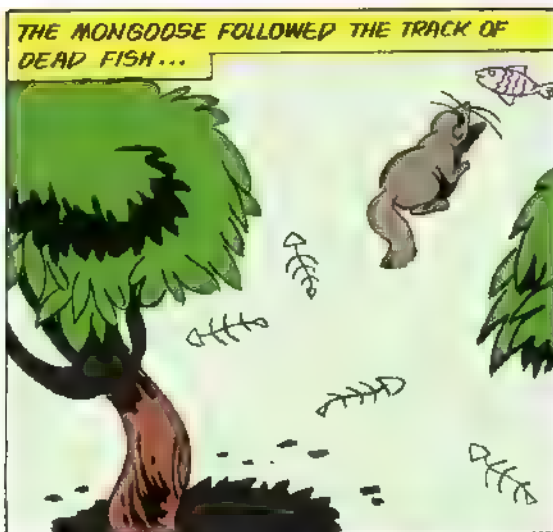
I HOPE THE CRAB'S PLAN WILL WORK.

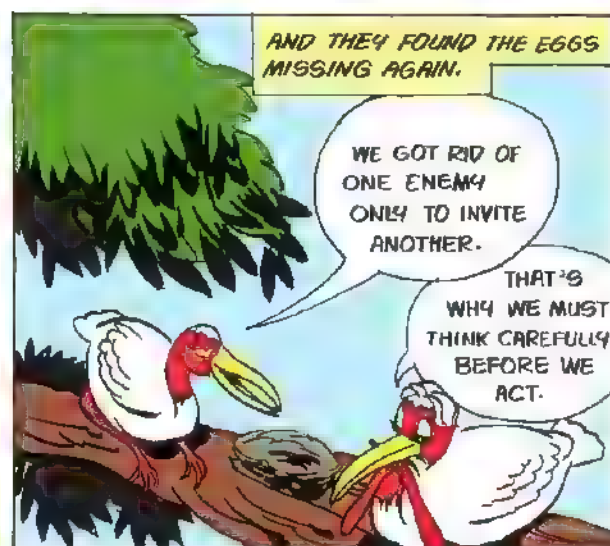
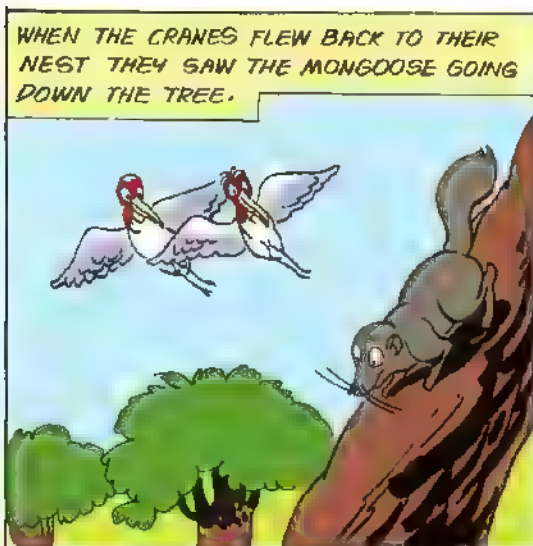
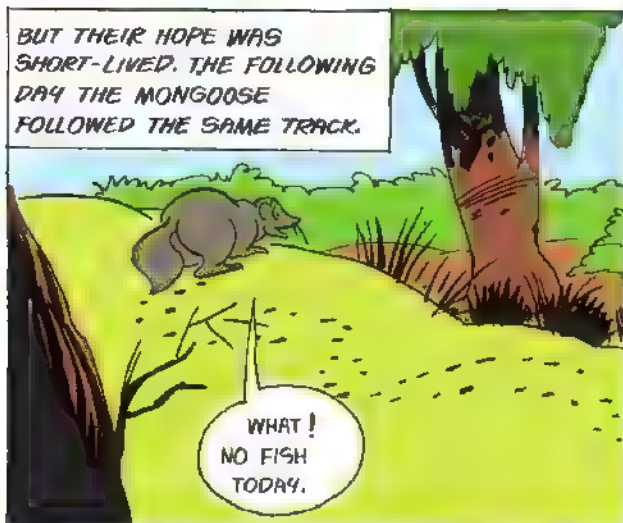
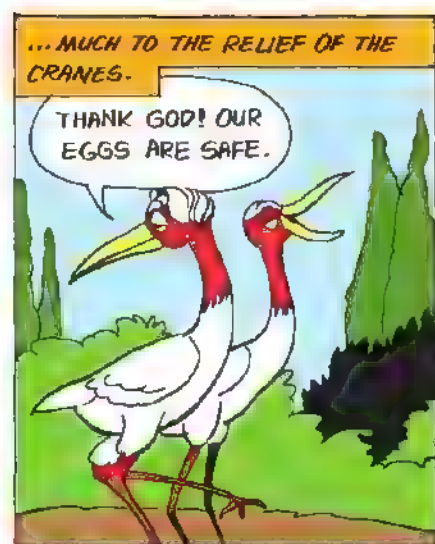
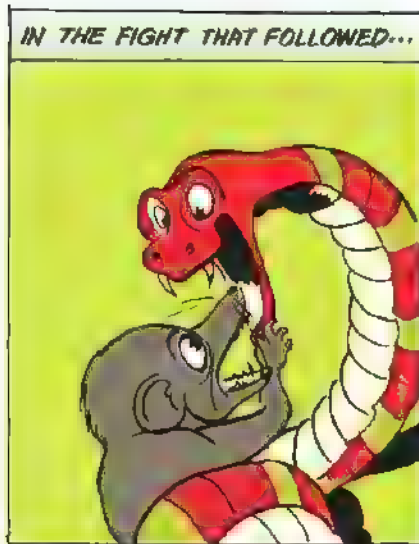


AFTER SOME TIME WHEN THE MONGOOSE CAME OUT —

I SMELL FISH.

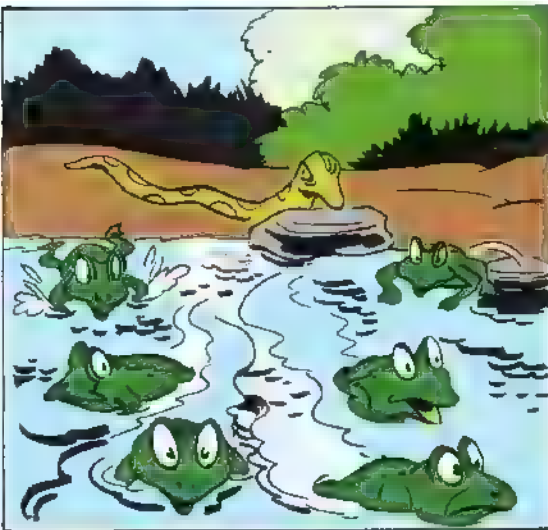
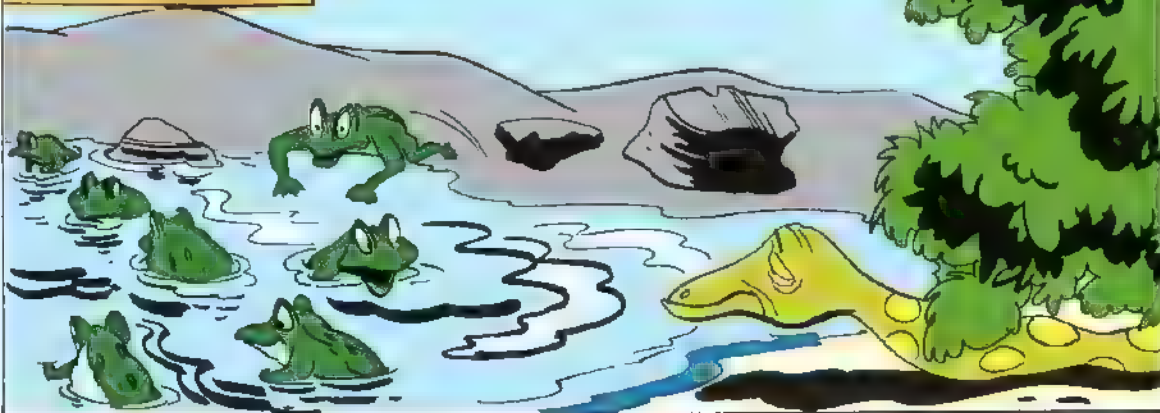






THE FOOLISH FROG KING

ONCE AN OLD, WEAK SNAKE CAME TO A POND FULL OF FROGS.



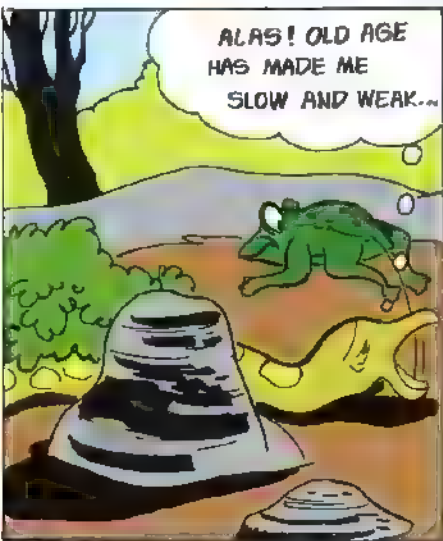
SO MANY
FAT FROGS...



...BUT I
CAN'T CATCH
THEM.



ALAS! OLD AGE
HAS MADE ME
SLOW AND WEAK...

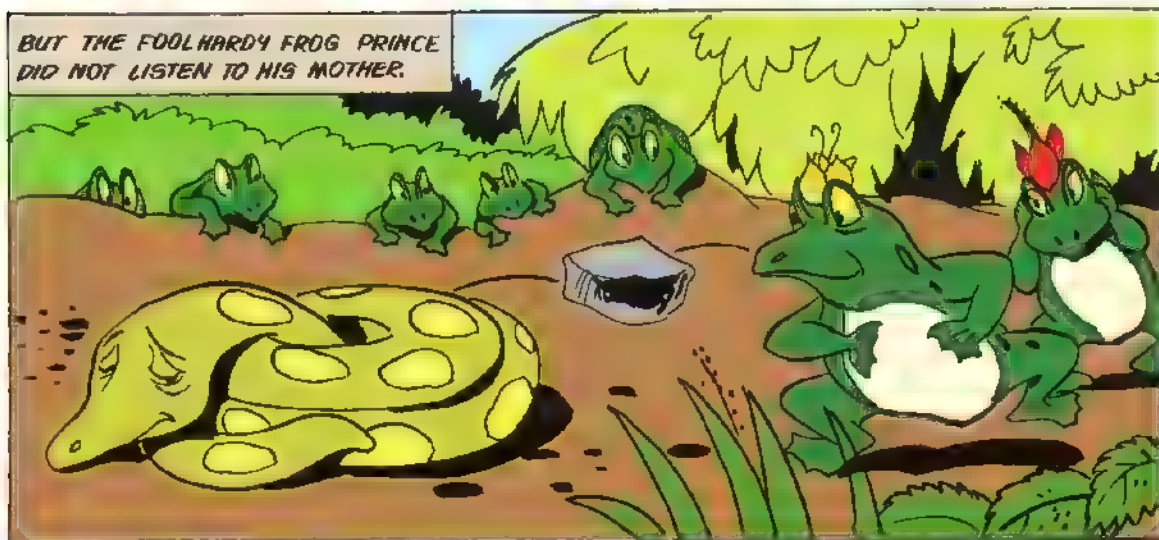
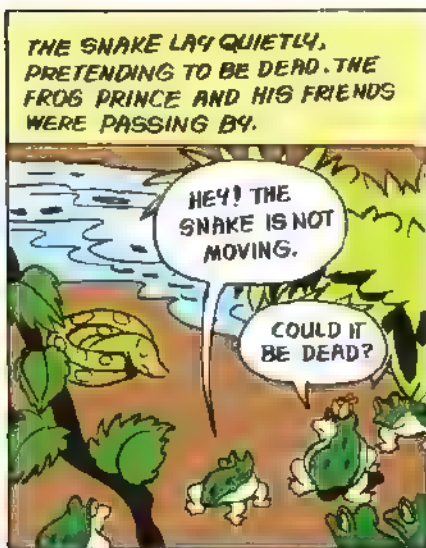


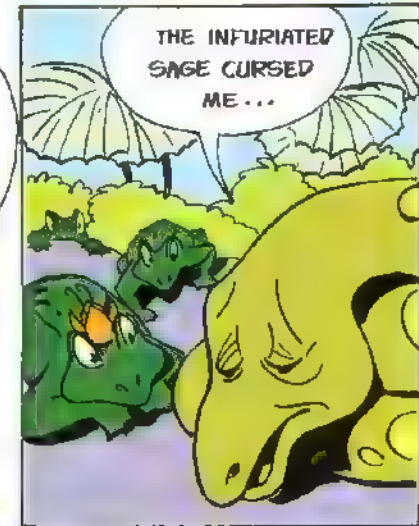
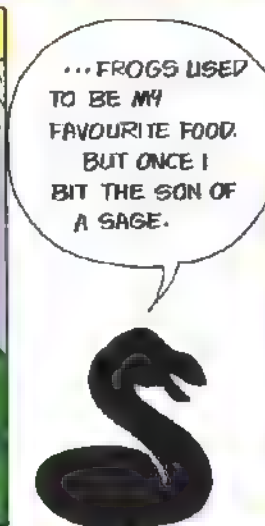
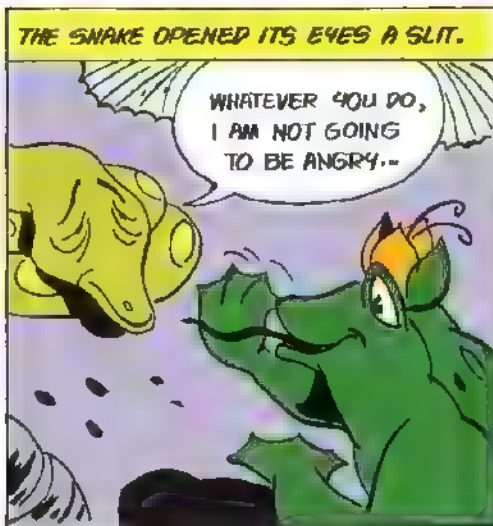
... AND I
GROW WEAKER
DAY BY DAY FOR
LACK OF
FOOD.



I MUST DO
SOMETHING TO
GET FOOD.



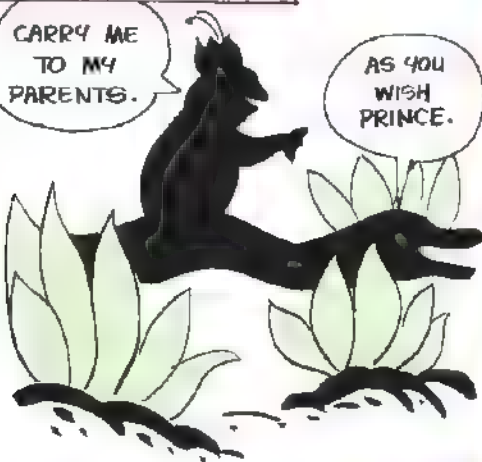




THE FROG PRINCE CLIMBED UP THE
BACK OF THE SNAKE.

CARRY ME
TO MY
PARENTS.

AS YOU
WISH
PRINCE.



IN NO TIME THE SNAKE REACHED THE
KING AND QUEEN OF FROGS.

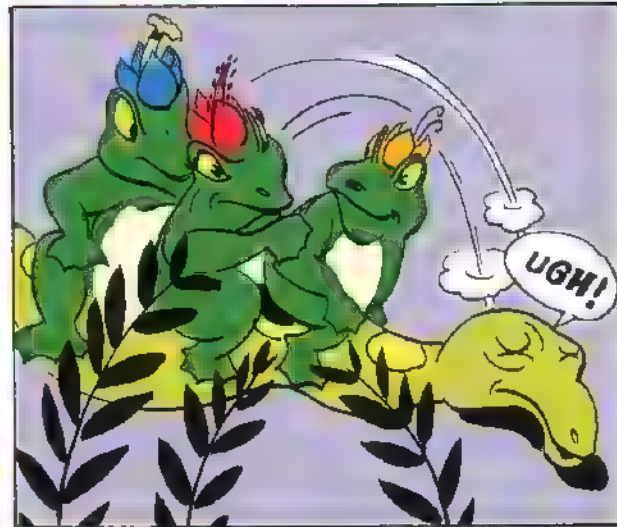
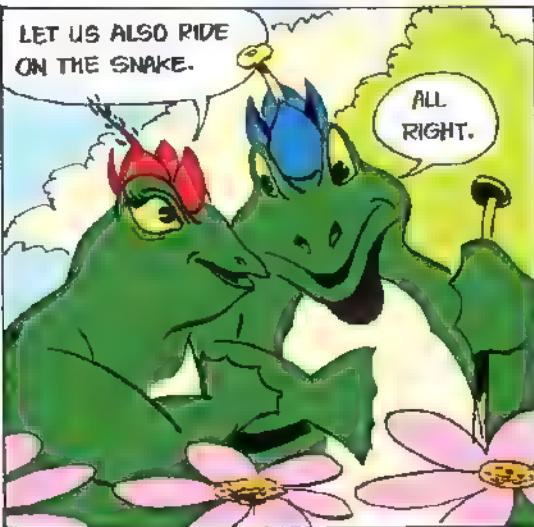
LOOK FATHER!
I AM RIDING
A SNAKE.

OH! MY
BRAVE SON.



LET US ALSO RIDE
ON THE SNAKE.

ALL
RIGHT.

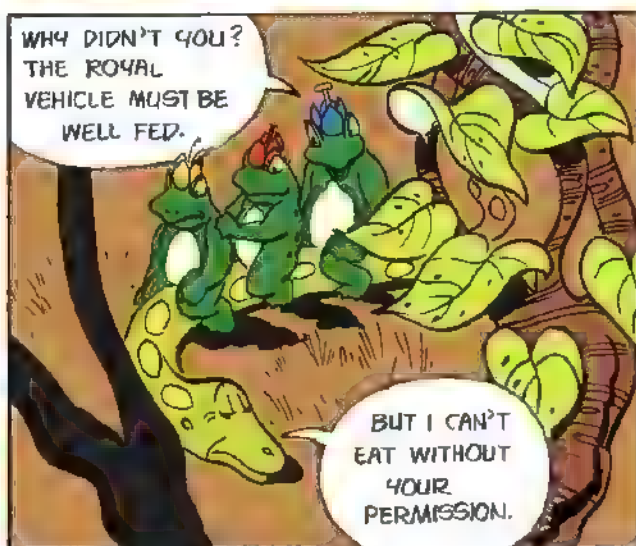


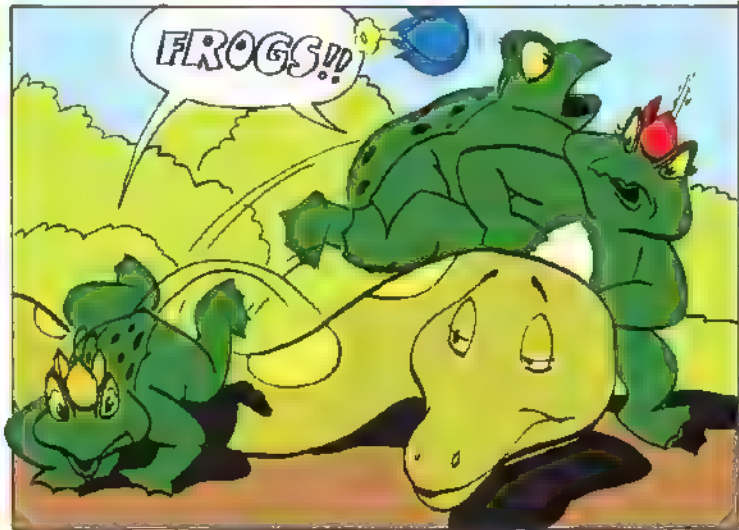
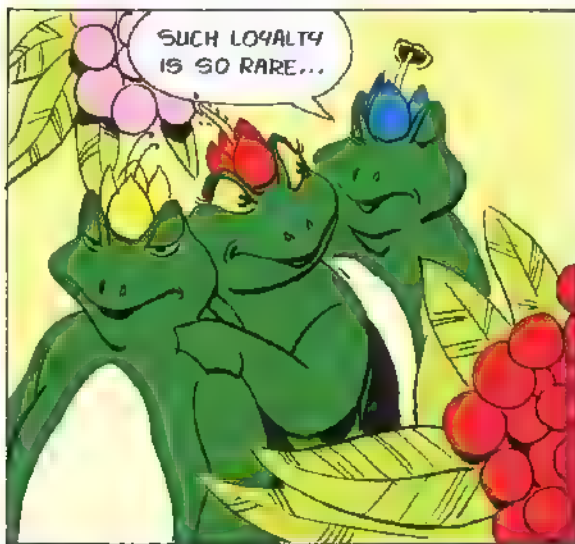
I CAN EAT THEM
RIGHT NOW, BUT
PATIENCE BRINGS
GREATER REWARDS.

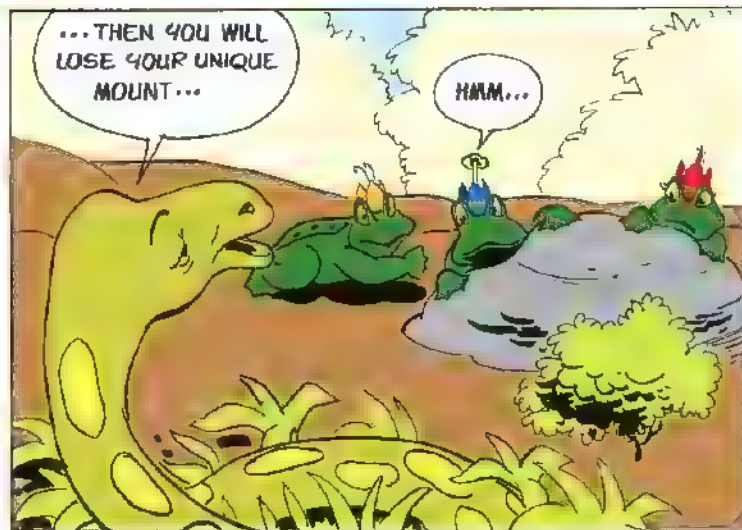
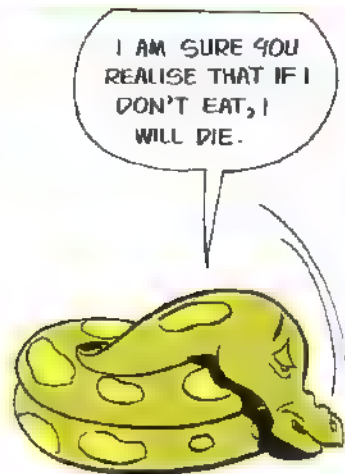
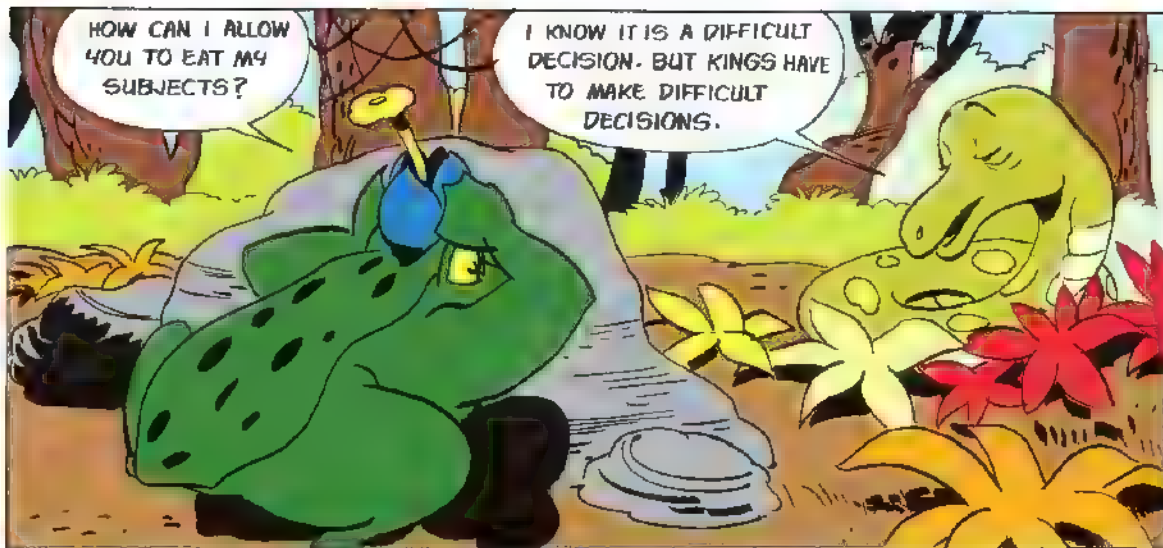
WHEE!!

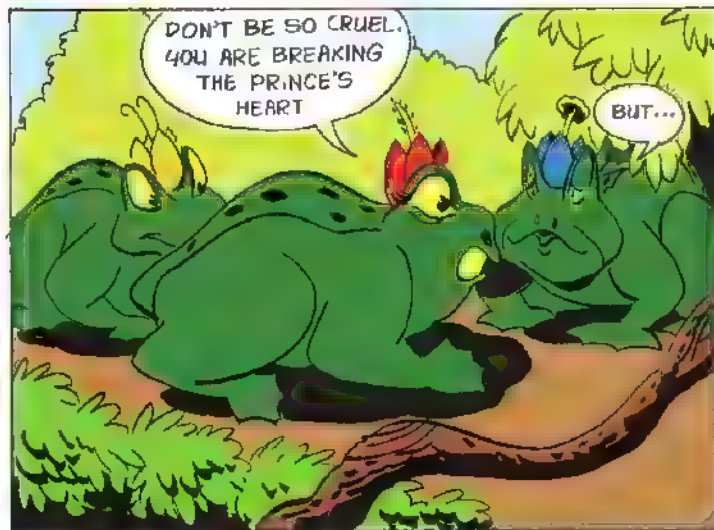
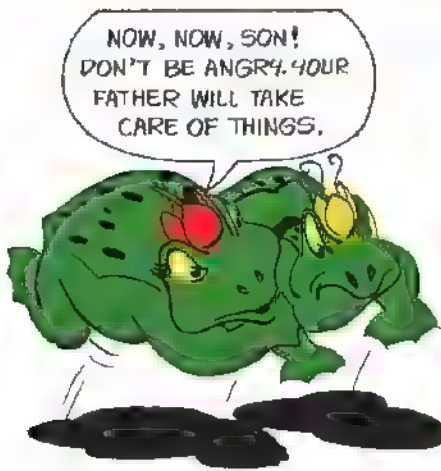
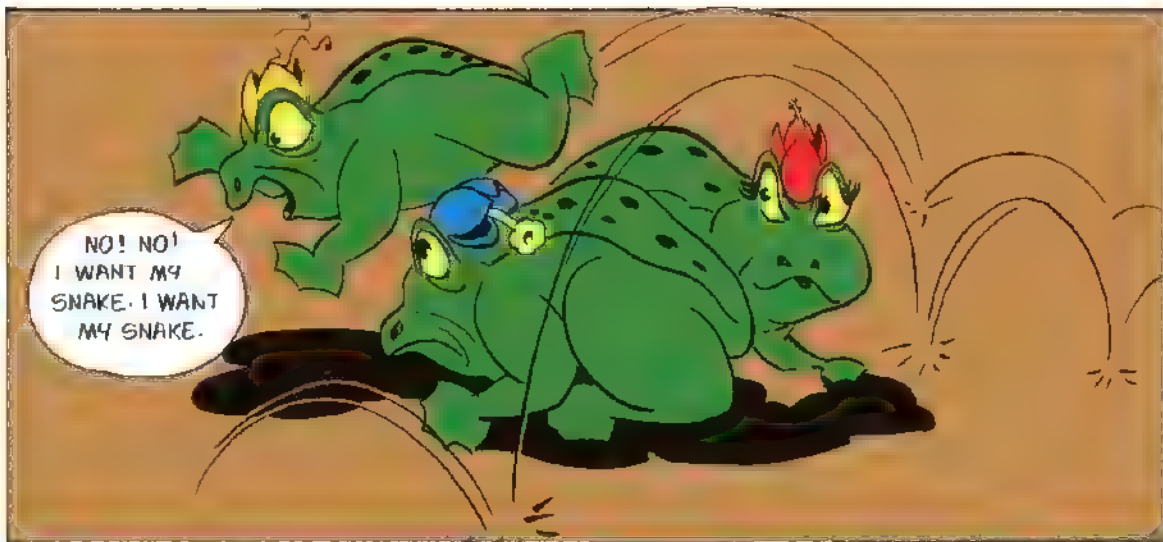
HOORAY!



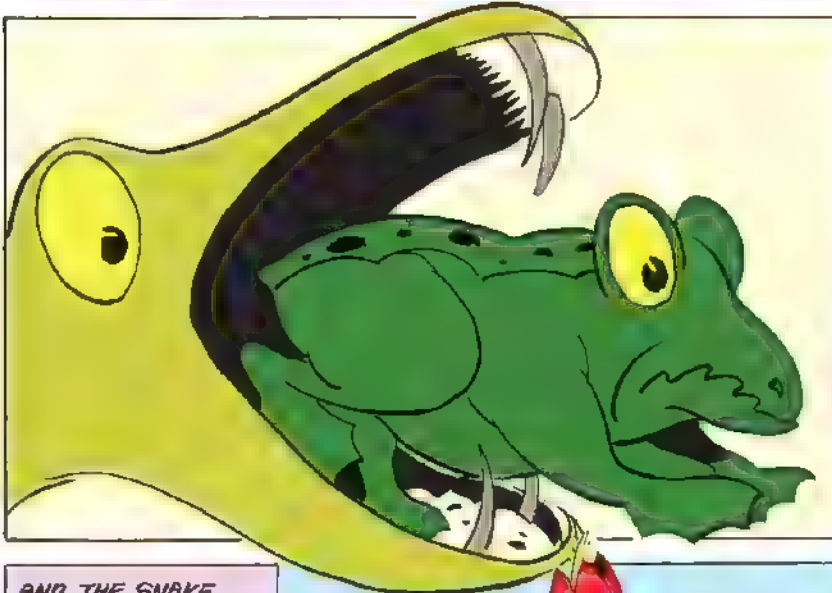
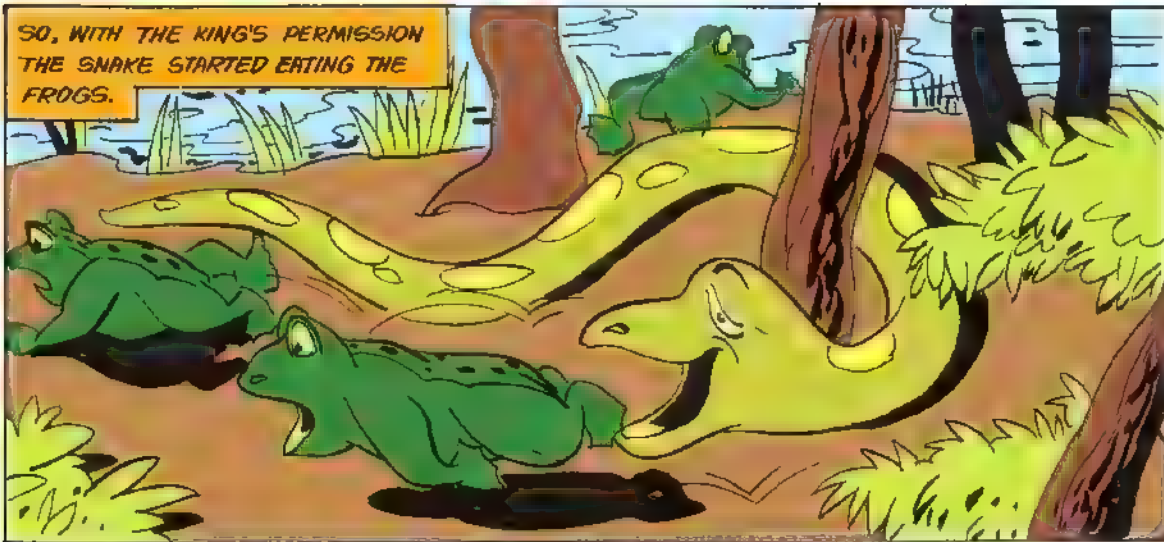






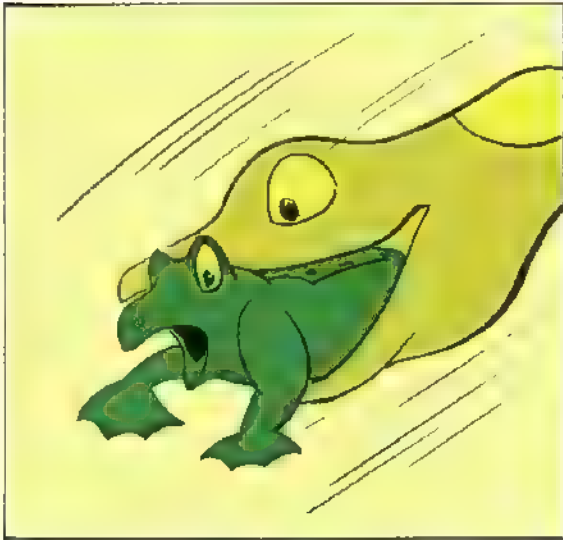
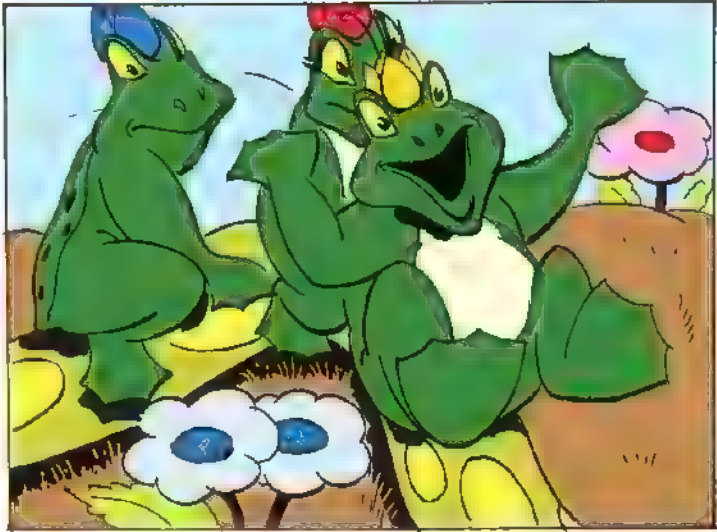


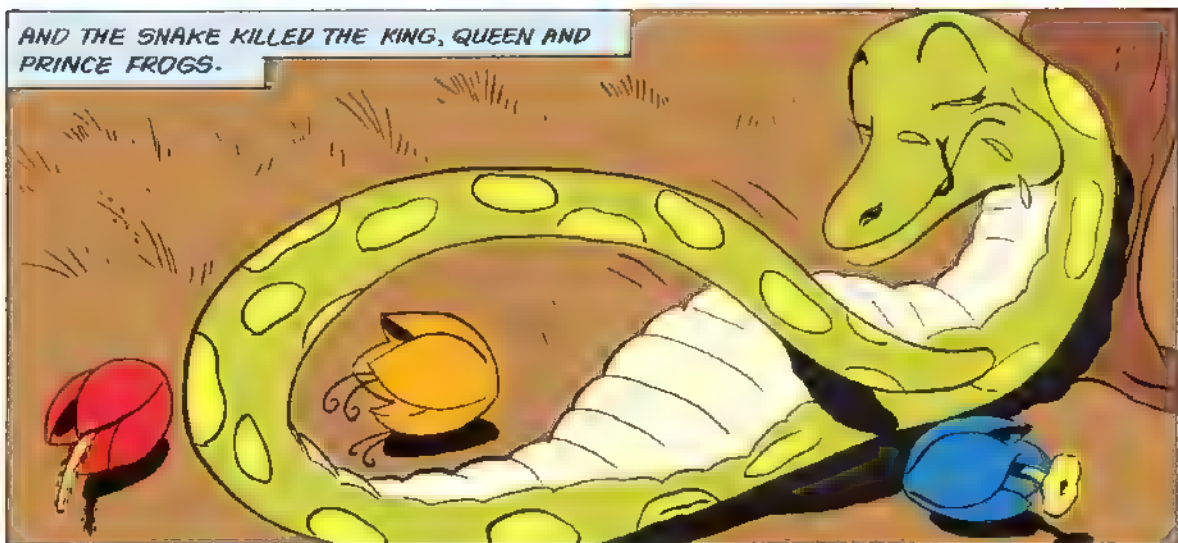
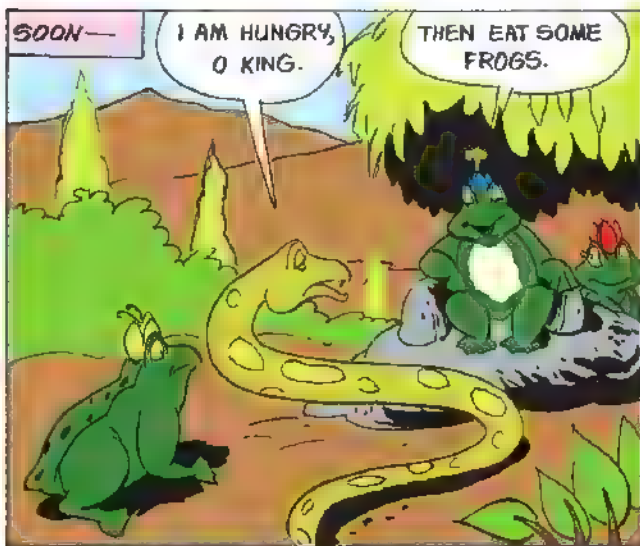
SO, WITH THE KING'S PERMISSION
THE SNAKE STARTED EATING THE
FROGS.



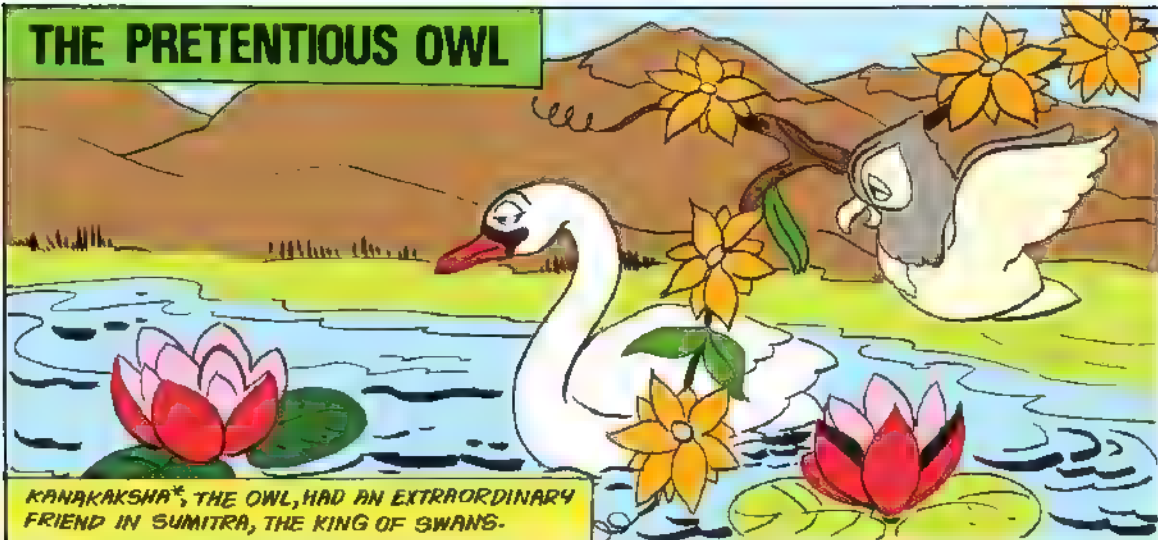
AND THE SNAKE
BECAME STRONGER.



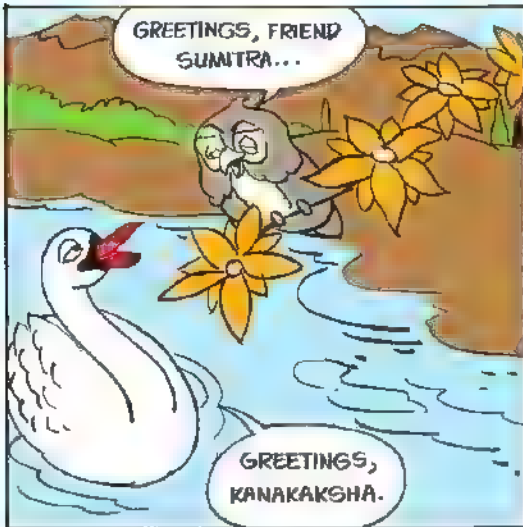




THE PRETENTIOUS OWL

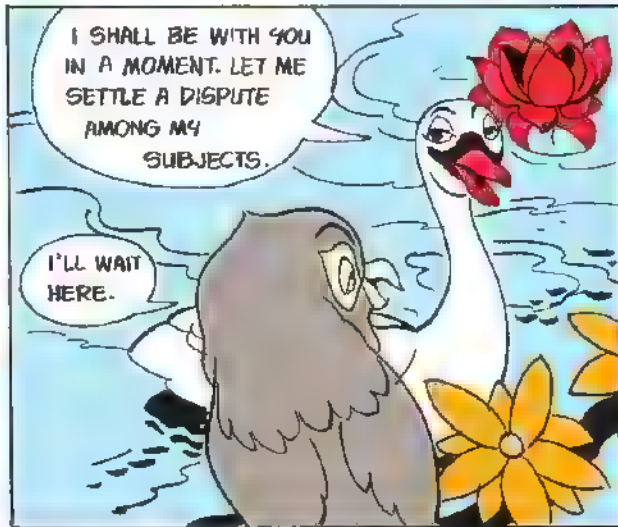


KANAKAKSHA*, THE OWL, HAD AN EXTRAORDINARY FRIEND IN SUMITRA, THE KING OF SWANS.



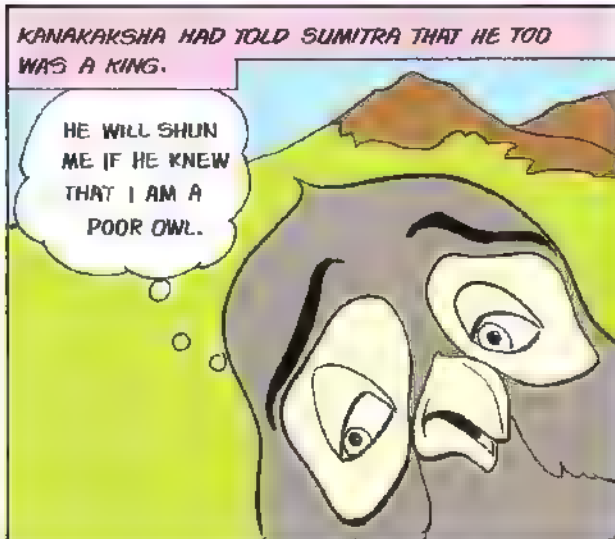
GREETINGS, FRIEND SUMITRA...

GREETINGS, KANAKAKSHA.



I SHALL BE WITH YOU IN A MOMENT. LET ME SETTLE A DISPUTE AMONG MY SUBJECTS.

I'LL WAIT HERE.



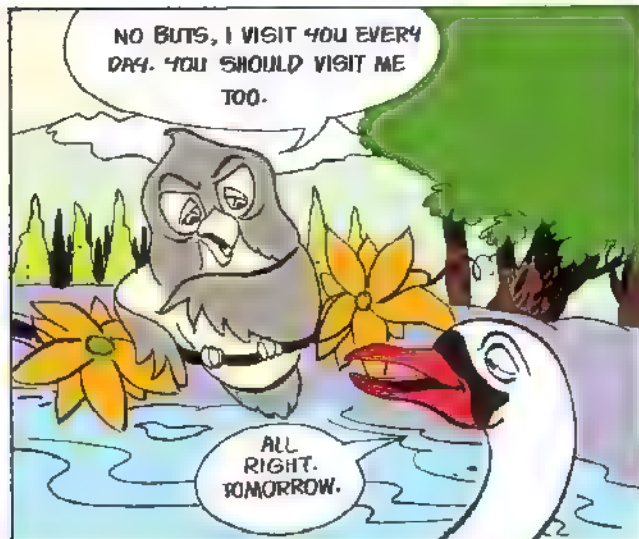
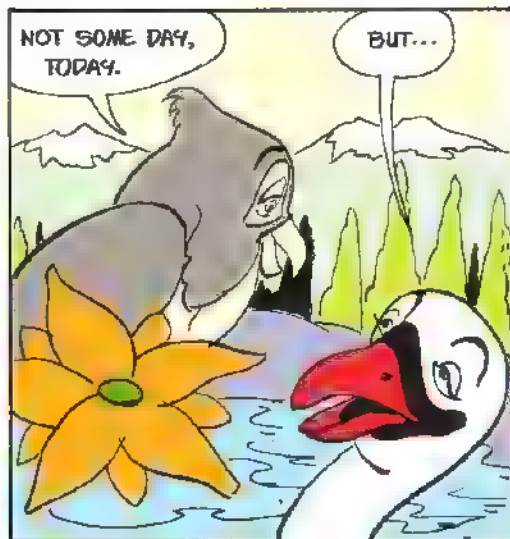
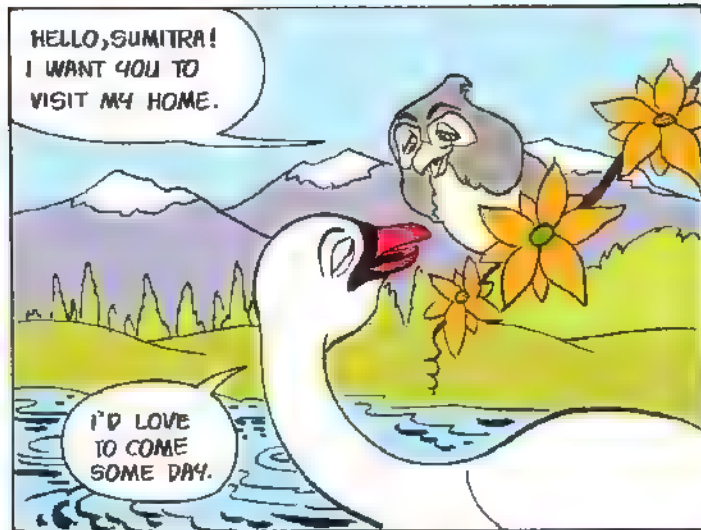
KANAKAKSHA HAD TOLD SUMITRA THAT HE TOO WAS A KING.

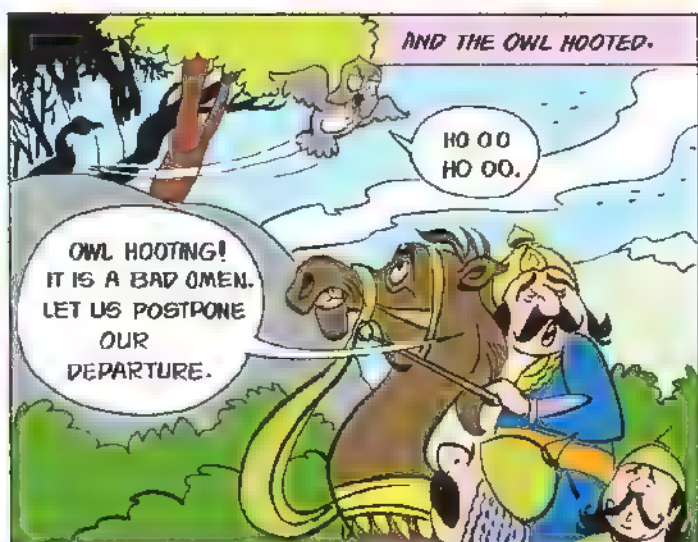
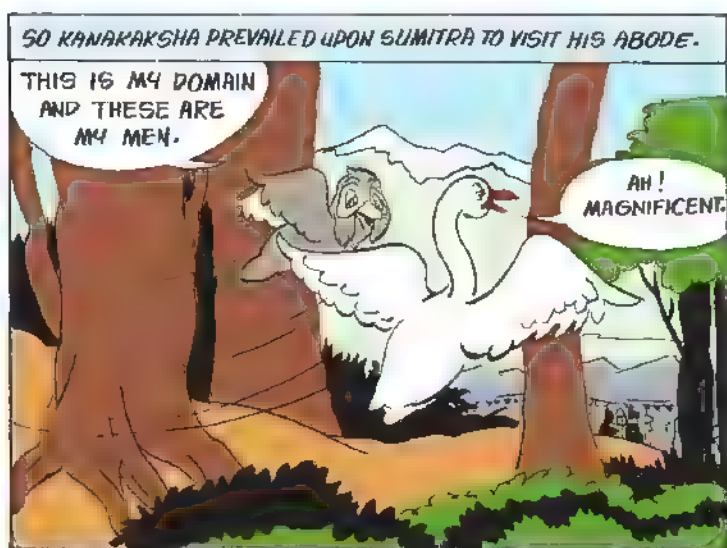
HE WILL SHUN ME IF HE KNEW THAT I AM A POOR OWL.

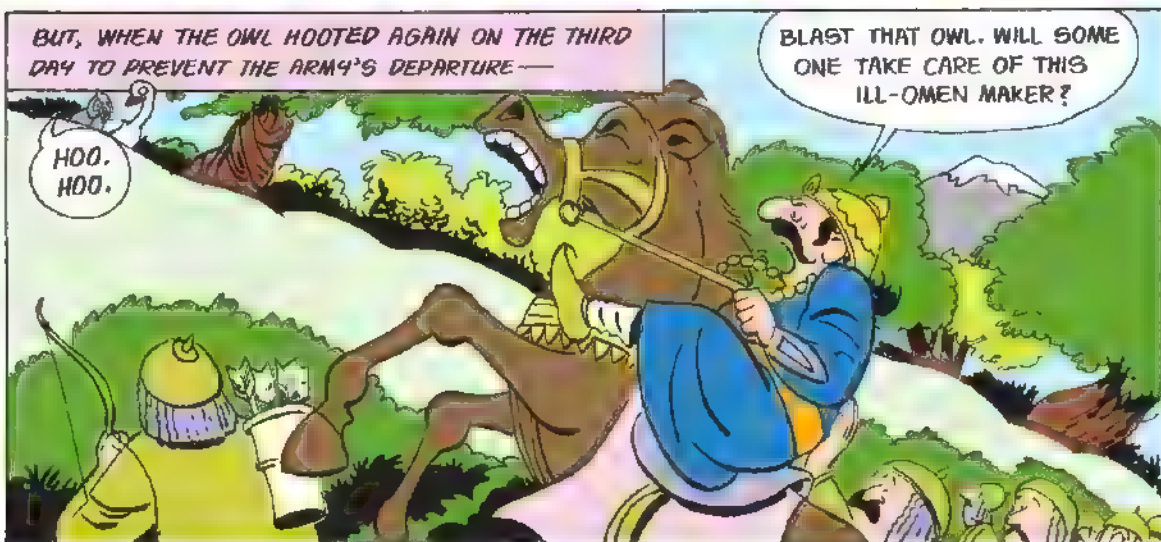
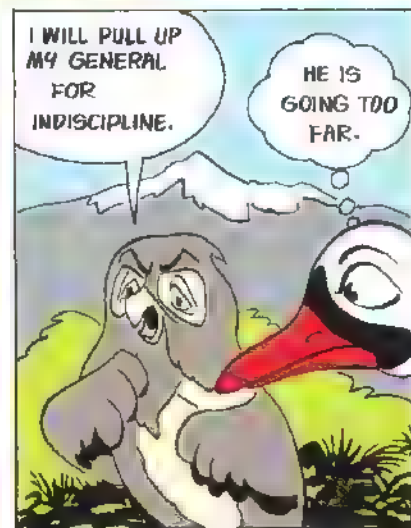
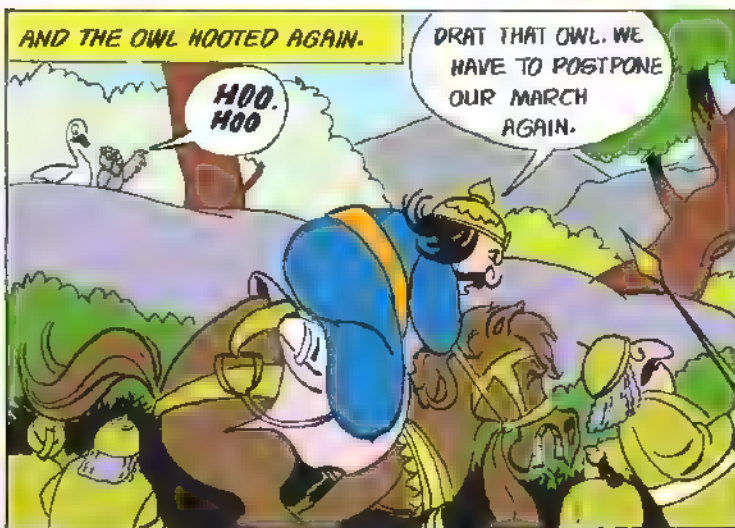
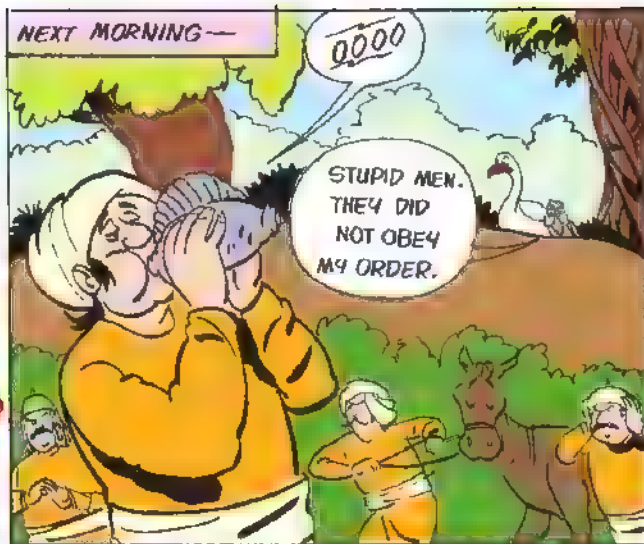
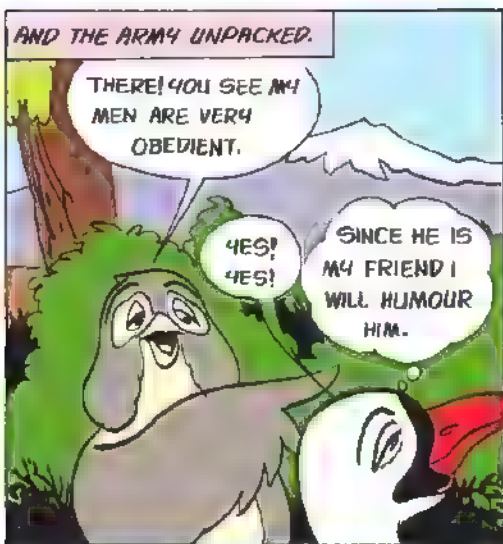


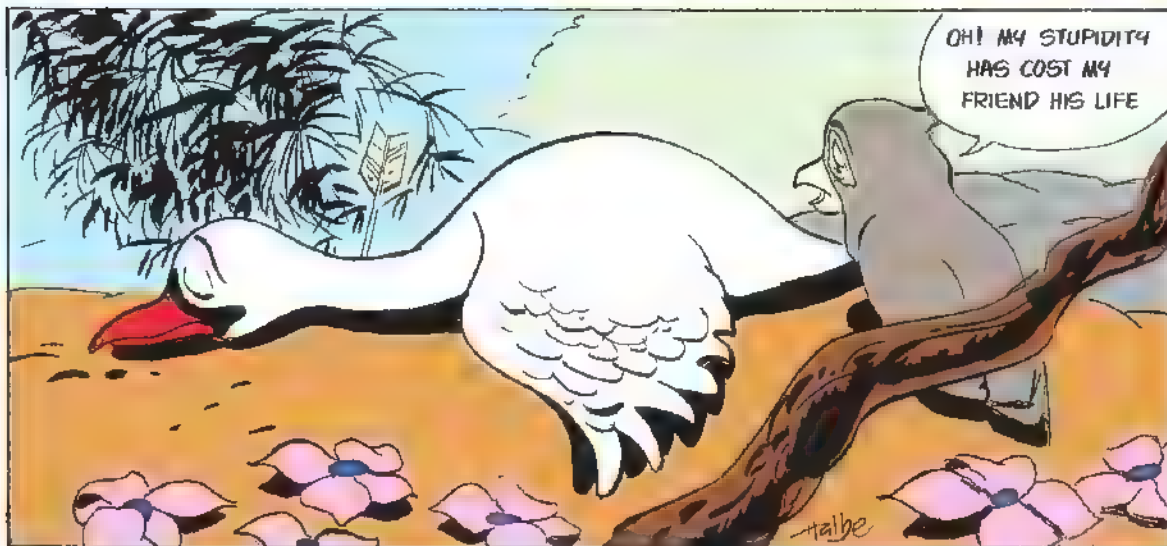
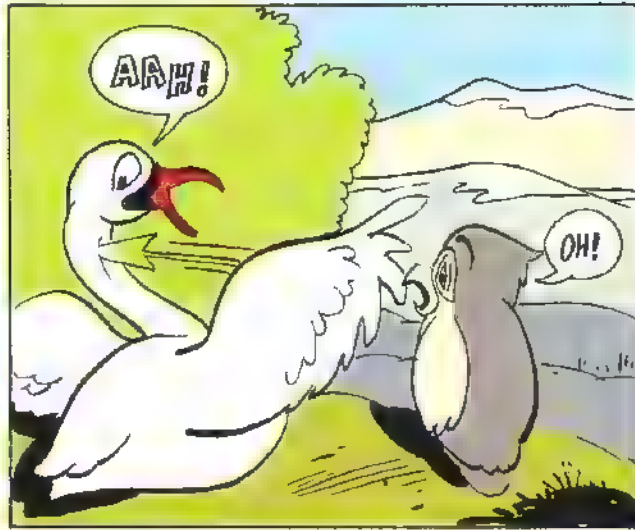
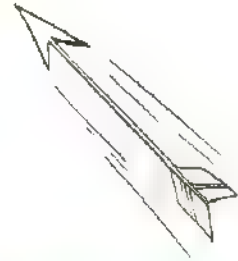
I MUST DO SOMETHING TO PROVE THAT I TOO AM A KING.

* GOLDEN EYED



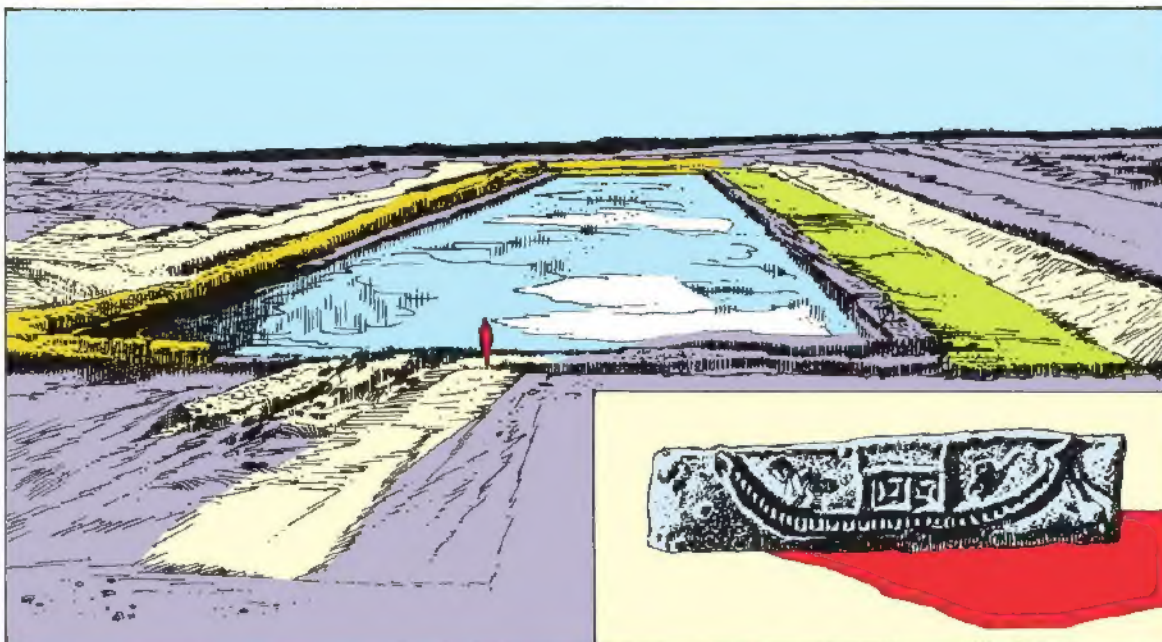




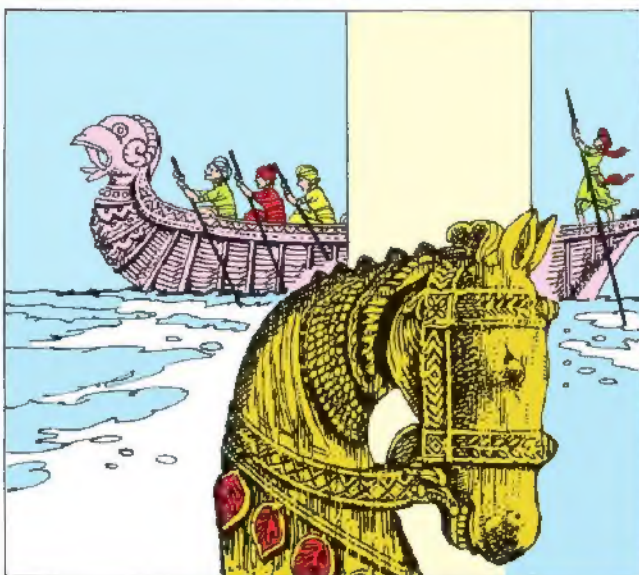


Boats, Ships and Ports of Ancient India

Script : Swarn Khandpur • Illustrations : Ramesh Umrotkar



SHIPPING IN INDIA IS AS OLD AS HER HISTORY. THE REMAINS OF A LARGE DOCKYARD AT LOTHAL (GUJARAT) SHOW THAT THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY FLOURISHED DURING THE INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION. A SEAL OF MOHENJODARO TIMES FOUND IN MESOPOTAMIA HAS A SHIP MOTIF.



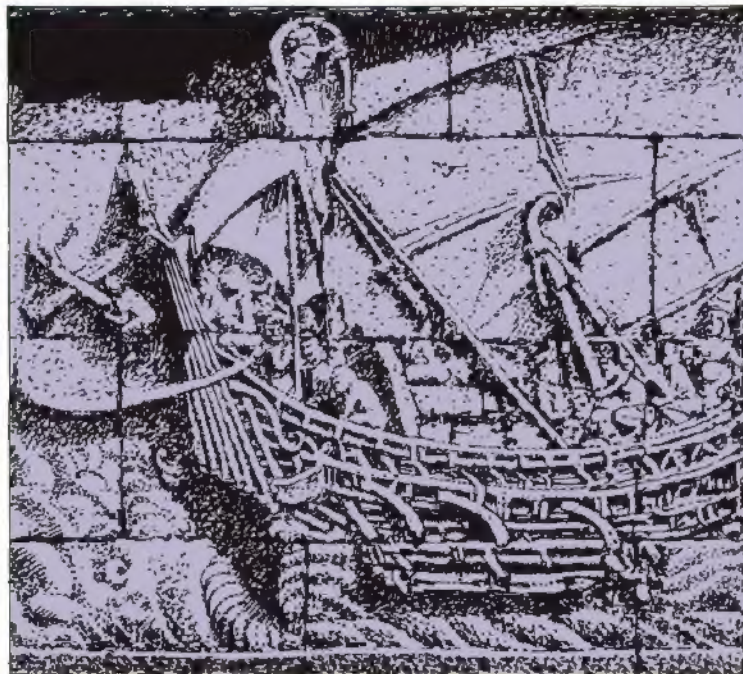
IN ANCIENT TIMES, SHIPS WERE NAVIGATED WITH THE HELP OF OARS AND RUDDERS. SOME HAD MASTS. PROWS WERE OF VARIOUS SHAPES AND STUCCOED WITH PRECIOUS STONES.



THIS CARVING FROM BHARHUT (NEAR SANCHI) SHOWS TWO BOATS WITH THREE SAILORS IN EACH. ONE OF THE BOATS IS BEING SWALLOWED BY A SEA-MONSTER.



THE EARLY ANDHRAS OF THE 2ND AND 3RD CENTURIES A.D. ISSUED COINS BEARING IMAGES OF SHIPS.



THE PEOPLE OF THE EAST COAST ALSO COLONIZED JAVA AND SUMATRA. THIS CARVING OF A SHIP AT THE BOROBUDUR TEMPLE CLOSELY RESEMBLES THE CATAMARAN USED TODAY ALONG THE COROMANDEL COAST. THE WORD 'CATAMARAN' LITERALLY MEANS 'BOUND LOGS' IN TAMIL.

WHICH OF THE ACKs HAVE YOU STILL NOT READ?

EPICS AND MYTHOLOGY

Best known stories from the Epics and the Puranas

Abhimanyu
Agastya
Andhaka
Aniruddha
Arjuni And Uttanka
Ashwini Kumars
Ayyappa
Bahubali
Bhanumati
Bheema And Hanuman
Bheeshma
Chandrarhasa
Dasharatha
Dhruva And Ashtavakra
Draupadi
Drona
Elephanta
Gandhari
Ganesha
Ganesha And The Moon
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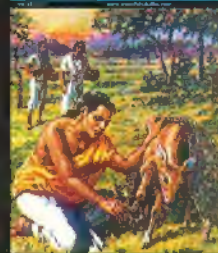
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